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TAMIL NADU **GOVERNMENT GAZETTE**

EXTRAORDINARY

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Part IV—Section 2

Tamil Nadu Acts and Ordinances

The following Ordinance which was promulgated by the Governor on the 14th May 2020 is hereby published for general information:—

TAMIL NADU ORDINANCE No. 2 OF 2020.

An Ordinance further to amend the Tamil Nadu Court-fees and Suits Valuation Act, 1955.

WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of the State is not in session and the Governor of Tamil Nadu is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action for the purposes hereinafter appearing:

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (1) of Article 213 of the Constitution, the Governor hereby promulgates the following Ordinance:-

1. (1) This Ordinance may be called the Tamil Nadu Court— Short Title And fees and Suits Valuation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020.

Commence-Ment.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

Tamil Nadu Act xiv of 1955.

2. In sections 61, 63 and 72 of the Tamil Nadu Court-fees and Amendment of Suits Valuation Act, 1955 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), for the expression "Board of Revenue" wherever it occurs, the expression "the appropriate authority specified in the Notification issued under sub-section (1) of Section 4 of the Tamil Nadu Board of Revenue Abolition Act, 1980 (Tamil Nadu Act 36 of 1980)" shall be substituted.

Sections 61, 63 And 72.

3. In sections 73, 75, 80, 81 and 82 of the principal Act, for Amendment of the expression "Fort St. George Gazette" wherever it occurs, the expression "Tamil Nadu Government Gazette" shall be substituted.

Sections 73, 75, 80, 81 And 82.

Amendment of Section 68.

4. In section 68 of the principal Act, for the expression "Article 11 (g) and (u) of Schedule II", the expression "Articles 11(g) and 11(s) of Schedule II" shall be substituted.

Amendment of Section 72.

5. In section 72 of the principal Act, in clause (xiv), for the expression "State Railway", the expression "Indian Railways" shall be substituted.

Amendment of Section 75.

- 6. Section 75 of the principal Act shall be renumbered as sub-section (1) of that section, and after sub-section (1) as so renumbered, the following sub-section shall be added, namely:-
 - "(2) For the purpose of this Section and Section 74,-
- (a) "stamp" means any mark, seal or endorsement by any agency or person duly authorised by the State Government;
- (b) "e-stamp" means a unique number generated on payment of fee through online or through similar software as the State Government may by notification specify in this behalf;
- (c) "impressed stamp" means impression by franking machine or any other machine by any agency or person duly authorised by the State Government.".

BANWARILAL PUROHIT, Governor of Tamil Nadu.

15th May 2020.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT.

As per Sections 74 and 75 of the Tamil Nadu Court-fees and Suits Valuation Act, 1955 (Tamil Nadu Act XIV of 1955), all fees chargeable under that Act shall be collected by impressed stamps, adhesive stamps or e-stamps. In the absence of definition for the word "e-stamp", collection of court-fee through e-payment mode could not be done. Therefore, the Registrar General, High Court of Madras has requested the Government to amend the said Tamil Nadu Act XIV of 1955 to facilitate payment of court-fee through e-payment. It has, therefore, been decided to define the word 'e-stamp' to pave the way for collection of court-fees through e-payment, as well as the words 'stamp' and 'impressed stamp' in the said Act.

- 2. Further, it is noticed that in the said Tamil Nadu Act XIV of 1955, there are references to the expressions "Fort St.George Gazette", "Board of Revenue" and "State Railway". As the Fort St.George Gazette was renamed as the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette; the Board of Revenue was abolished by the Tamil Nadu Board of Revenue Abolition Act, 1980 (Tamil Nadu Act 36 of 1980); and the Railways is not under the State control, the said expressions have also to be amended suitably.
- 3. Accordingly, the Government have decided to amend the Tamil Nadu Court-fees and Suits Valuation Act, 1955 (Tamil Nadu Act XIV of 1955) for the aforesaid purposes.
 - 4. The Ordinance seeks to give effect to the above decision.

(By order of the Governor)

C. GOPI RAVIKUMAR, Secretary to Government, Law Department.